

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

Sub B1
1. A method for dynamically synchronizing a duplicated database stored on a server and a client computer, wherein the client computer database comprises a last server access time and a plurality of data objects and the server computer database comprises a creation time and a plurality of data objects, comprising:

downloading the server computer database to the client computer, if the client computer database last server access time indicates a time that is earlier than a time indicated by the creation time of the server computer database;

selectively downloading data objects stored in the server computer database to the client computer database, if the client computer database last server access time indicates a time that is not earlier than a time indicated by the creation time of the server computer database;

receiving a command for determining a database configuration;

deleting the server computer database if the server computer contains a database and if the received command dictates that the server computer database be deleted; and

copying a client computer database to the server computer, if the received command dictates that the client computer database be copied to the server computer.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising, updating the last server access time stored in the client computer database, wherein the updated last server access time corresponds to a clock time maintained by the server computer.

3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising, transmitting, from the client computer to the server computer, the last server access time stored on the client computer database.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein each data object comprises a last server access time that indicates when the data object was modified, the selective downloading of the data objects comprises:

determining if the last server access time of one data object stored in the server computer database indicates a time later than a time indicated by the client computer database last server access time; and

selectively downloading the one data object stored in the server computer database to the client computer database, if the last server access time of the one data object stored in the server computer database indicates a time later than a time indicated by the client computer database last server access time.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining if the client computer database last server access time is within a predetermined period of time from a clock time maintained by the server computer; and

downloading the server computer database to the client computer, if the client computer database last server access time is not within a predetermined period of time from a clock time maintained by the server computer.

6. A computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the method of any one of Claims 1-5.

7. A computer-controlled apparatus for performing the method of any one of Claims 1-5.

8. A method for dynamically synchronizing a duplicated database stored on a server and a client computer, wherein the client computer database comprises a last server access time and a plurality of data objects and the server computer database comprises a creation time and a plurality of data objects, comprising:

determining if the client computer database last server access time indicates a time that is earlier than a time indicated by the creation time of the server computer database;

downloading the server computer database to the client computer, if the client computer database last server access time indicates a time that is earlier than a time indicated by the creation time of the server computer database; and

selectively downloading data objects stored in the server computer database to the client computer database, if the client computer database last server access time

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indicates a time that is not earlier than a time indicated by the creation time of the server computer database.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising, updating the last server access time stored in the client computer database, wherein the updated last server access time corresponds to a clock time maintained by the server computer.

10. The method of Claim 8, further comprising, transmitting, from the client computer to the server computer, the last server access time stored on the client computer database.

11. The method of Claim 8, wherein each data object comprises a last server access time that indicates when the data object was modified, the selective downloading of the data objects comprises:

determining if the last server access time of one data object stored in the server computer database indicates a time later than a time indicated by the client computer database last server access time; and

selectively downloading the one data object stored in the server computer database to the client computer database, if the last server access time of the one data object stored in the server computer database indicates a time later than a time indicated by the client computer database last server access time.

12. The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

determining if the client computer database last server access time is within a predetermined period of time from a clock time maintained by the server computer; and

downloading the server computer database to the client computer, if the client computer database last server access time is not within a predetermined period of time from a clock time maintained by the server computer.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the predetermined period of time is ninety days.

14. A computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the method of any one of Claims 8-13.

15. A computer-controlled apparatus for performing the method of any one of Claims 8-13.

16. A method for initializing a database system having one client computer and a server computer, comprising:

receiving a command for determining a database configuration;

determining if the server computer contains a database;

deleting the server computer database if the server computer contains a database and if the received command dictates that the server computer database be deleted; and

copying a client computer database to the server computer, if the received command dictates that the client computer database be copied to the server computer.

17. A computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the method of Claim 16.

18. A computer-controlled apparatus for performing the method of Claim 16.

19. A method for dynamically synchronizing a duplicated database stored on a server and a client computer, wherein the databases each comprise a last server access time and a plurality of data objects, comprising:

receiving, at the client computer, a synchronization data from the server computer;

updating the entire client computer database with the server computer database if the synchronization data includes the server computer database; and

updating selective client computer database data objects, if the synchronization data only includes corresponding selective server data objects.

20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising, receiving an updated last server access time from the server computer, wherein the updated last server access time corresponds to a clock time maintained by the server computer.

21. The method of Claim 19, further comprising, transmitting, from the client computer to the server computer, the last access time stored on the client computer database.

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22. A computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the method of any one of Claims 19-21.

23. A computer-controlled apparatus for performing the method of any one of Claims 19-21.

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